Inspiration: Solving the Solvable

What does it mean to say a societal challenge is solved? Collaborators will gain a common understanding of solvable problems. Engage with social entrepreneurs, leaders, and innovators who have successfully addressed this problem in this interactive series of TED-style talks.

The Power of Pro Bono

What is the undeniable, critical success factor for transformative change? Whether it is organizational, societal, or economic—human capital—people who translate aspiration into action, is the key success factor in any positive and lasting transformation. Underlying the best strategies and operational plans are the humans with the skill sets, confidence, and vision to transform groundbreaking ideas into results. It requires adaptability, tenacity, and the ability to work with individuals from different functions, cultures, and geographies.

Pro bono projects transform individuals into change-makers inside their organization—both those who provide pro bono services and those who receive them. Hear how service learning pro bono projects are cultivating intrapreneurial leaders with the mindset and skill set to deliver strategies that impact communities as well as the bottom line.

Who are the problem solvers in your organization? How might you leverage their abilities through the power of pro bono?

Fall in Love with the Problem

Collectively, we know a lot. We have many answers based on our vast well of experiences. The desire to bring forth a solution is human nature. Yet, during this collaborative action session, we are going to challenge you to park your solution at the door and join others to re-examine the problem and stay with it. What are its root causes? Who is impacted by the issue you’re trying to tackle? Who in the community could you best help? Who benefits from this problem? Who loses? During this session, you’ll be asked to fall in love with the problem again.

Evening Reception

Hosted by PIMCO Foundation
Reflections from Day 1

Redefining “Solvable”
Collectively, we have a lot of resources. We have human, physical, social, intellectual, natural, and financial capital. Too often, however, we spread our resources as far and wide as possible in the desire to reach scale. As a community, this approach hasn’t served us well in solving problems, and in some instances, it has come at the expense of those we hope to serve. Notions of “scale” can invite bias and cut-and-paste solutions. How might we help communities solve their own problems by building upon insight, positive examples, and ground truth? How might this benefit both business and society? Hear from social innovators who are tackling problems through this lens and how they have achieved this.

Going Agile
Now that you have a better understanding of the problem, explore solutions and the partnerships required with your fellow collaborators. You’ll be asked to field test your ideas with the Global Engagement Forum: Live Guest Cohort, comprised of on-the-ground practitioners from around the world who are steeped in these issues each day.

Courageous Community Collaborations
What do rural, agricultural communities in Rajasthan, India have in common with urban industrialized communities in Detroit, Michigan? The answer is courageous community collaboration. As a result of unexpected synergies among business, government, nonprofit organizations, and civic leaders, these geographies are undergoing resurgence and transformation. Economic opportunity has increased. Education is on the rise. Infrastructure is improving. And at its heart, local communities increasingly have a voice and a stake in their future. These type of collaborations require steadfast leadership from public, private, and social sector stakeholders. Learn from senior leaders who have been instrumental in these and other community collaborations.

How might courageous community collaboration help solve a problem?

Idea, Commitment, Action
2017 Global Engagement Forum: Live participants reveal where they’ve taken the ideas that emerged from the last year’s engagement. You’ll learn how this type of collaboration is transforming lives outside of the two-day experience.

Final Pitches
It’s time! You’ve been working for two days. A selection of ideas and approaches generated will now be shared with the full Forum with a special opportunity to connect and collaborate with others beyond these two days.

What’s Your Commitment?
Collaborators identify commitments and develop a mini action plan to overcome barriers when they return to their jobs.